

In the United States Court of Federal Claims
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS
No. 21-0597V

CYNTHIA CRIDER,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: November 6, 2023

Jimmy A. Zgheib, Zgheib Sayad, P.C., White Plains, NY, for Petitioner.

Andrew Henning, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

DECISION ON DAMAGES¹

On January 12, 2021, Cynthia Crider filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, et seq.² (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleges that she suffered a right-sided shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (“SIRVA”) due to a vaccine she received on September 25, 2019. Petition (ECF No. 1). The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters (the “SPU”).

On September 18, 2023, a ruling on entitlement was issued, finding Petitioner entitled to compensation for SIRVA. On November 3, 2023, Respondent filed a proffer on award of compensation (“Proffer”). Respondent represented that Petitioner agrees with

¹ Because this Decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action taken in this case, it must be made publicly accessible and will be posted on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, and/or at <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/uscourts/national/cofc>, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2018) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). **This means the Decision will be available to anyone with access to the internet.** In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), Petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within this definition, I will redact such material from public access.

² National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all section references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

the proffered award. *Id.* at 2. Based on the record as a whole, I find that Petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the Proffer.

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached Proffer, I award a lump sum payment of \$20,291.15 (representing \$20,000.00 for pain and suffering, and \$291.15 for past unreimbursable expenses) in the form of a check payable to Petitioner. This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under Section 15(a).

The Clerk of Court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.³

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Brian H. Corcoran

Brian H. Corcoran

Chief Special Master

³ Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by the parties' joint filing of notice renouncing the right to seek review.

**IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS**

CYNTHIA CRIDER,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

No. 21-597V (ECF)
Chief Special Master Corcoran
SPU

RESPONDENT'S PROFFER ON AWARD OF COMPENSATION

On January 12, 2021, Cynthia Crider (“petitioner”) filed a petition for compensation under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, 42 U.S.C. §§ 300aa-1 to -34 (“Vaccine Act” or “Act”), alleging that she suffered a Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine Administration (“SIRVA”), as defined in the Vaccine Injury Table, following administration of an influenza (“flu”) vaccine she received on or about September 25, 2019. Petition at 1. On September 16, 2022, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (“respondent”) filed a Rule 4(c) Report recommending that entitlement to compensation be denied. ECF No. 25. On December 22, 2022, petitioner filed a Motion for a Ruling on the Record. ECF No. 30. On February 28, 2023, respondent filed a response, asserting that petitioner had not demonstrated by preponderant evidence that: (1) petitioner met the Act’s severity requirement; and (2) petitioner’s onset of an alleged Table SIRVA injury occurred within forty-eight hours of vaccination. ECF No. 33. Petitioner’s reply followed on March 9, 2023. ECF No. 34. On September 18, 2023,

Chief Special Master Corcoran issued a Ruling on Entitlement, finding that petitioner was entitled to vaccine compensation for a Table SIRVA.¹ ECF No. 36.

I. Items of Compensation

A. Pain and Suffering

Respondent proffers that petitioner should be awarded \$20,000.00 in pain and suffering.

See 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a)(4). Petitioner agrees.

B. Past Unreimbursable Expenses

Evidence supplied by petitioner documents that she incurred past unreimbursable expenses related to her vaccine-related injury. Respondent proffers that petitioner should be awarded past unreimbursable expenses in the amount of \$291.15. *See* 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a)(1)(B). Petitioner agrees.

These amounts represent all elements of compensation to which petitioner is entitled under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a).² Petitioner agrees.

II. Form of the Award

Petitioner is a competent adult. Evidence of guardianship is not required in this case. Respondent recommends that the compensation provided to petitioner should be made through a lump sum payment and requests that the Chief Special Master's decision and the Court's

¹ Respondent has no objection to the amount of the proffered award of damages set forth herein. Assuming the Chief Special Master issues a damages decision in conformity with this proffer, respondent waives his right to seek review of such damages decision. However, respondent reserves his right, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-12(e), to seek review of the Chief Special Master's September 18, 2023, entitlement decision.

² Should petitioner die prior to the entry of judgment, the parties reserve the right to move the Court for appropriate relief. In particular, respondent would oppose any award for future medical expenses, future lost earnings, and future pain and suffering.

judgment award the following: a lump sum payment of \$20,291.15, in the form of a check payable to petitioner.

Respectfully submitted,

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/s/ ANDREW J. HENNING
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DATED: November 3, 2023